

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

(TUE) 8. 31 ' 04 14:03/ST. 14:02/NO. 4862059841 P 1

AUG 31 2004

FAEGRE & BENSON LLP

2200 WELLS FARGO CENTER, 30 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402-3901
TELEPHONE 612-766-7000
FACSIMILE 612-766-1600

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Minneapolis Document Service Center (20th Floor)

Facsimile No. 612/766-1600

THIS TELECOPY IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE PERSON TO WHOM IT IS ADDRESSED, AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.

Date: August 31, 2004

Time: _____ m. (Minneapolis)

Number of pages (including this page): 9

F&B File No.: 307895 Rec.: 993

From: Tong Wu

Telephone Number: 612/766-6804

To: B. Snow

Fax No.: 703-872-9306

Art Unit: 3738

Phone No.: 866-217-9197

Patent & Trademark Office, Technology Center 3700

Inventor(s): DOUGLAS W. KOHRS

Examiner: _____

Appln. No.: 09/777,631

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filing Date: February 6, 2001

Title: INTERVERTEBRAL
IMPLANT WITH REDUCED
CONTACT AREA AND
METHOD

Docket No. 75028-307895

Document attached: Reply (8 pages)

If you do not receive all pages, please call the Fax Center at
612/766-1650 or Elaine Raiten at 612/766-8728.

PATENT

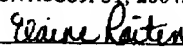
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): DOUGLAS W. KOHES	Examiner: B. SNOW
Appln. No.: 09/777,631	Group Art Unit: 3738
Filing Date: February 6, 2001	
Title: INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANT WITH REDUCED CONTACT AREA AND METHOD	Docket No. 75028-307895

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
AUG 31 2004**

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING FACSIMILE
TRANSMITTED TO THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (FAX
NO. (703) 872-9306), ON AUGUST 31, 2004.


Elaine Raiten

REPLY

This Reply is responsive to the outstanding Final Office Action mailed July 2, 2004. No fee is thought to be necessary. However, if any fee is required for entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account 06-0029 and is requested to notify us of the same. This Reply includes the following:

- **Amendments to the Claims** as reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.
- **Remarks** beginning on page 8 of this paper.